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KDHE's Bureau of Health Promotion and Bureau of Oral Health Combine Forces

by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is pleased to announce that the Bureau of Health Promotion and the Bureau of Oral Health will combine forces. The Bureau of Oral Health will consolidate their programs under the umbrella of the Bureau of Health Promotion. The combination of resources, finances, mission and talent will create several efficiencies within KDHE and strengthen the programs in both bureaus. The partnership will help expand the footprint of Oral Health and Health Promotion in the State of Kansas to best serve our state's citizens. Please feel free to contact [Ryan Lester](#) or [Dr. Cathy Taylor-Osborne](#) if you have any questions or want to discuss opportunities for collaboration with the Bureau of Health Promotion, including the Oral Health programs.

KS-TRAIN 3.0 Platform Goes Live in September - The Count Down Begins

Kansas TRAIN The new TRAIN 3.0 Platform will go live for Kansas learners September 13. The TRAIN 3.0 national site at www.train.org and CDC TRAIN at www.train.org/cdctrain/ went live on January 30. To test the new look of TRAIN 3.0 go to www.train.org and login with your user name and password. There are new features still being moved to production, such as a list view to the calendar, training plans and conferences. These changes will be available before Kansas goes live this fall. New enhancements to the TRAIN learning management system include: mobile-friendly access, allowing learners to use TRAIN on a variety of devices; modern design that is easy to navigate; simplified account creation fields; improved advanced course search; streamlined learning record management, including transcripts and certificates; increased support, including [video tutorials](#) and easy-to-understand documentation. KansasTRAIN questions can be directed to kdhe.kstrain@ks.gov.

Kansas Public Health Systems Group Receives PHNCI 21st Century Public Health Innovations Grant

by the Public Health Systems Group



The Kansas Public Health Systems Group (PHSG) has been awarded the 21st Century Public Health Innovations Grant by the Public Health National Center for Innovations. The Public Health National Center for Innovations (PHNCI) is an organization that was founded by the Public Health Accreditations Board (PHAB) with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Over the next 17 months, the Kansas PHSG will continue their work on foundational public health services in Kansas. The project will have multiple components, including a pilot project. For more information about this project, contact [Charlie Hunt](#) at the Kansas Health Institute.

2017 Kansas Community Health Worker Symposium

by Alissa Rankin, Project Manager, Center for Public Health Initiatives and Caitlin Brock, VISTA, Center for Public Health Initiatives



The Kansas Community Health Worker (CHW) Coalition hosted the second annual Kansas Community Health Worker Symposium on Thursday, June 8, 2017 in Wichita. The opening keynote, presented by Dr. Kenneth Maes of Oregon State University's School of Anthropology, addressed the importance of CHW compensation and the development of common metrics for documenting CHW effectiveness. Breakout sessions were offered on multiple topics, including CHWs as agents of social change, Certified Peer Specialists, integration of CHWs into healthcare teams, diabetes prevention and management, and the history of CHWs. The Symposium attracted attendees from across the state, with a total of 123 participants.

The CHW Symposium Planning Committee and Wichita State University's Center for Public Health Initiatives are grateful for the support of event sponsors including the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Sunflower Health Plan, Humana, United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, Sunflower Foundation, LiveWell Finney County Health Coalition, and the REACH Healthcare Foundation.

Regional Public Health Meetings - 3rd Quarter Topics Announced

by Teri Caudle, RN, PHN, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



The Regional Public Health Meetings are designed to connect local health departments with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. The last meeting of the second quarter will be in the Northeast Region in Topeka on June 13. The agenda for the second quarter includes a variety of topics: An Introduction to the National Diabetes Prevention Program and Self-Management Programs, Erin Fletcher, Program Manager Community Clinical Linkages, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Health Promotion; What is "Trauma Informed" Public Health System of Care?, Vanessa Lohf, Wichita State University's Community Engagement Institute; and the Kansas Local Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Ghazala Perveen, KDHE Director of Science and Surveillance, and Pratik Pandya, Advanced Epidemiologist. Register on [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID#1069679.

The third quarter of Regional Public Health Meetings will include a number of valuable presentations. The agenda includes the following topics: Adam Inman with the Kansas Department of Agriculture will speak on home based operations, fires, floods, power outages, emergency management and food disasters; Zach Stein, KDHE Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, will discuss syndromic surveillance and the ESSENCE system; and Percy Turner, Wichita State University's Community Engagement Institute, will share an update on the Medicaid Ombudsman Program and the Self Help Network of Kansas. Registration for the third quarter meetings will be made available on KS-TRAIN in the near future.

The dates and locations for the third quarter meetings are:

- Southeast Region, Chanute, July 13
- South Central Region, Hutchinson, August 2
- Southwest Region, Garden City, August 9
- Northwest Region, Oakley, August 10
- Northeast Region, Topeka, August 29
- North Central Region, Beloit, September 6

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics or questions regarding the meetings, please contact Teri Caudle at teri.caudle@ks.gov.

West Nile Virus Arrives Early in Kansas

by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has discovered that four *Culex* species mosquito pools collected from traps in Reno, Shawnee and Johnson counties are positive for West Nile virus in preliminary testing, and that two birds in Shawnee County have tested positive for West Nile virus. In addition, Kansas is reporting the first case of West Nile virus in 2017 in a person from Barton County. These findings may indicate that West Nile virus transmission could occur much earlier in 2017 than in previous years. The *Culex* species are known to transmit West Nile virus, but are not known to transmit Zika virus.

West Nile virus can be spread to people through bites from infected mosquitoes, but it is not contagious from person to person. Symptoms range from a slight headache and low-grade fever to swelling of the brain or brain tissue and in rare cases, death. People who have had West Nile virus before are considered immune.

KDHE has developed West Nile virus risk levels to help guide prevention efforts for both communities and individuals. These risk level reports will be posted weekly [online](#). All three regions of Kansas are currently at the high risk level.

KDHE recommends the following precautions to protect against West Nile Virus:

- When you are outdoors, use insect repellent containing an EPA-registered active ingredient on skin and clothing.
- Many mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times, or consider staying indoors during these hours.
- The elderly or immunocompromised should consider limiting their exposure outside during dusk and dawn when the *Culex* species mosquitos are most active.
- Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children's wading pools empty and on their sides when they are not being used.

Cases are most common in the late summer and early fall. In 2012, there were 57 cases of West Nile virus in the state, the most cases since the virus first made its way into Kansas in 2002. More recently, in 2016, 34 cases were identified in Kansas. Among these cases, 21 were hospitalized, and there were five deaths.

In addition to tracking cases of human illnesses caused by West Nile virus, KDHE assesses the potential for West Nile virus by conducting mosquito surveillance, including laboratory testing. Birds generally are not tested for West Nile virus in Kansas, and KDHE will not be collecting information about dead birds. If you find a dead bird, KDHE recommends that you wear gloves, place the bird in a plastic bag, and dispose of it in the garbage.

KDHE maintains an Arboviral Disease Surveillance [web page](#) that is updated weekly. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides a [web page](#) with additional information about West Nile virus and preventing mosquito bites. For questions about West Nile virus or other Arboviral diseases, please contact the KDHE Epidemiology hotline at (877) 427-7317.

Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project Workshop: Workforce Development

by Jessica Fiscus, Project Manager, Center for Public Health Initiatives



On Friday, June 2, the Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project (KARP) held its first Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) pre-requisite specific workshop on the workforce development plan (WDP) in Manhattan at the Riley County Health Department. The event was attended by 16 individuals representing six local health departments and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). The day focused on meeting the requirements outlined within Domain 8 of the PHAB Standards & Measures. Domain 8 contains a number of components that ensure a health department maintains a competent public health workforce.

A key pre-requisite within Domain 8 requires health departments to have a workforce development plan that is implemented and tracked. The workshop allowed participants to gather information on workforce development plans as well as begin working on or updating their existing workforce development plan. In addition, the day included other topics addressing components of Domain 8, including assessing staff competencies, tools for developing competency based job descriptions, and strategies for tracking and documenting. These topics were all selected based upon the priorities identified within Domain 8 by KARP participants at their annual summit on March 10.

Debbie Nickels, the KS-TRAIN Administrator, presented information showing how KS-TRAIN can be utilized to support an agency's workforce development plan tracking efforts. Attendees left with a better understanding of the workforce development plan process and a Kansas specific template that can be used to start a plan or compare to existing plans for gaps. For more information about KARP or developing a workforce development plan, contact [Jessica Fiscus](#).

New Program Delivers Milk to Pantries - Milk 2 My Plate

by Midwest Dairy Council

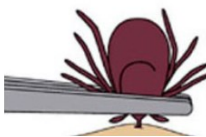


Harvesters is partnering with Hiland Dairy on a new purchasing program that provides a weekly supply of fresh, reduced-fat milk to Harvesters' Agency Partners at a consistent, affordable price. This program aligns with Harvesters' goal to acquire and distribute healthy food to people in need throughout their 26-county service area. According to the most recent hunger study, *Hunger in America 2014*, fresh dairy items are at the top of the list of items pantry guests request but may not be available. Milk 2 My Plate helps fill this gap for families in need. To learn more [click here](#).



How to Best Remove a Tick and Other CDC Resources for Tick Season

by Ingrid Garrison, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, State Public Health Veterinarian, Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE



If you are looking for guidance on best practice for removing a tick, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a step-by-step guide available [online](#). The CDC has also made a number of audience-specific [fact sheets](#) on ticks for [hunters](#) and [summer campers](#) that may be helpful for your community during the summer and fall seasons. Another valuable [resource](#) is the Tickborne Disease of the United States: A [Reference Manual](#) for Health Care Providers, 4th edition (2017). This is a thorough primer on tickborne diseases. Additionally, it is a great idea to remind your community members of the importance of using flea and tick preventive on their pets as these animals can bring home ticks to their owners.

Examining the Increasing Incidence of Oral Tongue Cancer in the United States

by the Bureau of Oral Health



The incidence of oral tongue cancer in the United States has [reportedly increased](#) in recent years despite significant reductions in tobacco use. The main objective of this study was to identify the demographic subgroups and birth cohorts that have experienced an increase in oral tongue cancer. The second objective was to compare the findings with those for oropharyngeal cancer to determine whether similar birth cohorts experienced an increase in these cancers. The study was published in the April issue of Oral Oncology.

Salmonella Infections Associated with Exposure to Live Poultry

by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and many other state health departments are investigating multiple outbreaks of human Salmonella infections linked to contact with live poultry. As of May 25, 372 people infected with the outbreak strains of Salmonella, including 5 persons from Kansas, have been reported nationwide. These outbreaks are ongoing, with case counts expected to increase. More information about the nationwide outbreaks can be found on CDC's [website](#). Disease investigation and laboratory findings link the outbreaks to contact with live poultry, such as chicks and ducklings, which come from several hatcheries. Live baby poultry has been acquired from various sources including feed supply stores, websites, and hatcheries. Contact with live poultry and the areas where they live and roam can make people, especially young children, the elderly, and people with weakened immune systems, sick with Salmonella infections even when the birds appear healthy and clean. People can be exposed through direct contact with the birds and by touching surfaces where they live. This includes cages, feed, bedding and water bowls. It is particularly important to wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after handling or caring for any live poultry. This, along with careful cleaning of equipment and materials associated with raising or caring for live poultry, will help to reduce the risk of infection.

Accreditation Corner

NACCHO Releases 2016 Profile Key Findings: Accreditation Research Brief



The National Association of County & City Health Officers (NACCHO) recently released the [2016 Profile Key Findings: Accreditation research brief](#) presenting the newest data from the 2016 National Profile of Local Health Departments - a study that provides comprehensive information about local health department (LHD) funding, workforce, programs, and partnerships. This one-pager highlights LHD participation in national accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The study produced a number of key findings, including that the number of LHDs formally engaged in accreditation has tripled since 2013; however, the number of LHDs deciding not to apply for accreditation has also increased since 2013. According to the research brief, as of March 2016, 7 percent of LHDs have achieved accreditation and 14 percent of unaccredited LHDs have formally engaged in the accreditation process by either submitting an application or registering e-PHAB. Additionally, the study concluded that small and locally governed LHDs are much less likely to be formally engaged in accreditation. For additional information about the findings featured in this [research brief](#), e-mail profileteam@naccho.org.

Preparedness Corner

Healthcare Sector General IT Security Training



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Community Healthy Systems has developed and released an online Information Technology (IT) Security Awareness training course on KS-TRAIN. The General IT Security Awareness Training, [Course ID#1070513](#), is a general IT training directed at the healthcare and public health sector entities.

This 45 minute online course provides awareness concerning system security requirements and responsibilities required to protect IT systems and data. The course will allow attendees to identify potential risks and vulnerabilities associated with information systems. The course will also provide suggested guidelines to protect your organization against attacks on information systems. More information about this course is available on [KS-TRAIN](#). Please contact the Preparedness Program with questions regarding the course at KDHE.Preparedness@ks.gov or 785-296-5201.

KDEM Trainings



Visit the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM)'s [website](#) for a full listing of upcoming trainings. There are currently openings in the Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) Training in Dodge City. There are also several openings available for G300 and G400 courses through July.

Don't Forget to Check Out the Ready Reader

READY READER

The Ready Reader is developed by a taskforce representing emergency preparedness professionals, regulators, and advocacy associations from Kansas concerned with promoting compliance with the new CMS Emergency Preparedness conditions. The newsletters are available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/cphp/providers.htm> and new issues become available on Tuesdays. To receive the newsletter directly when it is released, send an email with your email address to Michael McNulty at mike.mculty@ks.gov.

Public Health Emergency Law Day-Long Course - July 25



The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) will host a day-long course for public health preparedness personnel at the Kansas City Missouri Health Department on July 25, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. This one-day course is a survey of selected legal issues that typically arise during emergencies. The primary goal of this competency based training is to enhance the ability of government employees to identify potential legal issues so that necessary adjustments to planning, policies, or procedures can be developed prior to a public health emergency, and to ensure a more effective response.

Public health practitioners must have a better understanding of the legal underpinnings of emergency preparedness and response systems, what actions are authorized, and how to minimize liabilities in large-scale public health emergencies. This course will provide participants with the ability to define public health emergency legal preparedness; identify key statutes, regulations and legal principles necessary to the management of a public health emergency; describe common legal issues and potential liability areas that can arise in emergency preparedness and response efforts; and understand general procedures to avoid associated liability.

For more information on this event, including how to register, please click [here](#).

Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Webinar



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Webinar on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next webinar will be July 25. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

Funding Opportunities

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program Grants - Deadline July 17



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is offering a funding opportunity to encourage and improve telemedicine services and distance learning services in rural areas. Grants are for projects where the benefit is primarily delivered to end users that are not at the same location as the source of the education or healthcare service. Grant funds may be used to acquire equipment, acquire instructional programming, or acquire technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment. Eligible applicants include entities that provide education or healthcare through telecommunications, including state and local government entities, federally-recognized tribes, nonprofit organizations, for-profit businesses and consortia of eligible entities. Grant applications can apply for a grant only, a combination loan-grant or a loan only. Grant applications must provide 15 percent matching funds. All applications must be submitted by July 17.

The Rural Utilities Service who host a webinar presentation about the grant opportunity on June 15, 1 - 3 p.m. More information about the informational webinar, including registration details, is available [here](#). Program resources for applying are available online, including forms, [guidance](#), certifications and [more](#). Questions can be sent via e-mail to dlinfo@wdc.usda.gov.

Cooperative Agreements to Implement Zero Suicide in Health Systems - Deadline July 18



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is offering a funding opportunity to implement the Zero Suicide Model, a comprehensive, multi-setting approach to suicide prevention in health systems. The purpose of the program is to implement suicide prevention and intervention programs for individuals who are 25 years of age or older. These programs are designed to raise awareness of suicide, establish referral processes, and improve care and outcomes for individuals who are at risk for suicide. This grant is to be primarily used to support direct services, examples of activities include:

- Screen all individuals receiving care for suicidal thoughts and behaviors. Conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of individuals identified at risk for suicide, and ensure reassessment as appropriate.
- Implement effective, evidence-based treatments that specifically treat suicidal ideation and behaviors. Clinical staff must be trained to provide direct treatment in suicide prevention and evaluate individual outcomes throughout the treatment process.
- Transform health systems to include a leadership-driven, safety-oriented culture committed to dramatically reducing suicide among people under care, and to accept and embed the Zero Suicide model within their agencies.
- Develop a Suicide Care Management Plan for every individual identified as at-risk of suicide and continuously monitor the individual's progress through their electronic health record or other data management system, and adjust treatment as necessary.

View the [application instructions](#) for more information, including a detailed list of required activities and other grant requirements. Eligible applicants include state health agencies with mental and/or behavioral health functions; tribal organizations; community-based primary care or behavioral healthcare organizations; emergency departments; and local public health agencies. An [informational webinar](#) for this grant opportunity will be held on June 2, 1:00 p.m. Additional information about this funding opportunity can be found [online](#). For programmatic or technical questions contact James Wright at james.wright@samhsa.hhs.gov; for grants management or budget questions contact [Gwendolyn Simpson](#). All grant applications must be submitted by July 18.

Kansas State Loan Repayment Application Cycle Open Now - Deadline July 31



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Office of Primary Care and Rural Health is excited to announce that the application period for the Kansas State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) is now open as of June 1! The SLRP offers eligible health care providers an opportunity to receive assistance with the repayment of qualifying educational loans in exchange for a minimum two-year commitment to provide health care services at an eligible practice site in a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA). The SLRP is jointly funded by the State of Kansas and the Health Resources and Services Administration's National Health Service Corps (HRSA NHSC).

Health care providers applying for the Kansas SLRP must be employed by a non-profit or public entity which has met Kansas SLRP eligibility requirements. The SLRP application period will open June 1 and close July 31 of each year. All applications must be received within this timeframe. For more information and to access application forms, visit our webpage at <http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/FundLoan.html> Questions? Email the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health at kdhe.primarycare@ks.gov.

Voices for Healthy Kids Grant - Deadline July 21



The American Heart Association and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation are working to create a culture of health with the Voices for Healthy Kids initiative. Through this collaboration, and in partnership with a team of experts across the healthy eating and active living movement, the initiative aims to engage, organize, and mobilize people to help all children grow up at a healthy weight. Voices for Healthy Kids will advance coordinated state, local, and tribal public policy issue advocacy campaigns focused on healthy eating and active living, and will utilize the American Heart Association's proven advocacy capacity to drive meaningful and widespread policy change.

The goal of the grant opportunities within this initiative is to make effective strategic investments in ongoing state, local, and tribal public policy issue campaigns in order to increase public policy impact on healthy weight and living among children. Voices for Healthy Kids is focusing efforts in schools, community, and out-of-school time/early care and education. Applications should support at least one [Voices for Healthy Kids Policy Lever](#). There are sixteen Voices for Healthy Kids Policy Levers that fall into three different categories: community; schools; and early care and education & out-of-school time. Voices for Healthy Kids is currently accepting applications for three different types of grant awards:

- **Strategic Campaign Funds Open RFA** - This opportunity aims to fund strategic issue advocacy campaigns focused on helping kids grow up at a healthy weight through state, local, and tribal public policy campaigns. The duration of these grants will vary but will generally be one year or less. Awards of up to \$90,000 are available. Applications must be specific to an individual campaign focused on changing public policy in one state, local, or tribal geographic location and must align with one of the Voices for Healthy Kids [policy priorities](#).
- **Incubator Grants** - The purpose of this Strategic Campaign Fund Incubator opportunity is to support innovative advocacy approaches that align with Voices for Healthy Kids policy priorities. Incubator Opportunities should identify additional partners and strategies through the empowered engagement of populations most impacted by childhood obesity. All grants awarded within this opportunity will be 100% non-lobbying funding. Applications must align with the Voices for Healthy Kids' [policy priorities](#).
- **Strategically Directed Tools** - An award opportunity intended to support lobbying activities related to a strategic issue advocacy campaign focused on helping kids grow up at a healthy weight at the state, local, and tribal level. Applications and campaigns must align with the Voices for Healthy Kids' policy priorities. Funding requests may range from \$20,000 to \$80,000, and the duration of the grants will vary.

Visit the [website](#) to learn more about these grant opportunities. The website also includes videos that assist potential applicants in preparing their applications, including information on the funding and [eligibility requirements](#). Applicants must use an online grant management system to submit their applications. It may take up to 2 business days for applicants' registration to be approved. All applications must be submitted by July 21.

Empowered Communities for a Healthier Nation Initiative - Deadline August 1



The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health (OMH) has released a new competitive funding opportunity seeking to reduce health disparities affecting minorities or disadvantaged populations. The Empowered Communities Initiative (ECI) is intended to serve residents in communities disproportionately impacted by the opioid epidemic, childhood/adolescent obesity, and serious mental illness. It seeks to prevent opioid abuse, increase access to opioid treatment and recovery services, and reduce the health consequences of opioid abuse; reduce obesity prevalence and disparities in weight status among children and adolescents; and reduce the impact of serious mental illness and improve screening for serious mental illness at the primary care level. The ECI seeks to demonstrate the effectiveness of collaborations that include academic medical centers, prevention research centers, teaching hospitals, or Tribal epidemiology centers, and community based organizations to reduce significant health disparities impacting minorities and disadvantaged populations through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and promising practices with the greatest potential for impact. OMH anticipates funding up to 16 cooperative agreements for \$300,000 to \$350,000 each for approximately \$5 million total, for a one-year period of performance, for a project period of three years. Each application should address only one of the three focus areas of the ECI program: opioid abuse; childhood/adolescent obesity; or serious mental illness. More information about this funding opportunity is available [online](#).

Kent Richard Hoffman Foundation Grant - Deadline September 1



The Kent Richard Hoffman Foundation provides grants to community-based organizations in support of care and direct services, education, and research for HIV/AIDS, with a focus on smaller and rural communities. Grants are made to support developing or established programs, with an emphasis on direct benefit to clients or target audiences. Previous requests receiving serious consideration have included:

- Request from locations with a scarcity of available funding;
- Requests for seed money for new projects, programs, or structures;
- Innovative ideas for meeting standard needs.

The first step in the grant application process is to complete a letter of inquiry. Letters of inquiry (LOI) are reviewed on a rolling basis, but those who wish to be considered for the next grant cycle must submit their LOI by September 1. The Hoffman Foundation will review all inquiries and provide an emailed response with an invitation to submit a full grant application, a request for further information, or a denial. Applicants who receive a favorable response to their LOI will be able to access the full application to submit a grant proposal. For those invited to apply, applications will be due September 22. Contact Eliza McAllister by [e-mail](#) or at 917-573-0486 with questions. Additional information is available [online](#).



Kansas Health Foundation - Impact and Capacity Grants Initiative

The Kansas Health Foundation is now receiving proposals for the Impact and Capacity Grants Initiative. This funding opportunity replaces the previously existing Recognition Grant Program and is designed to make funds available to a range of mission-aligned organizations actively working to reduce health disparities and promote health equity. The Impact and Capacity Grants Initiative is focused on two categories - impact grants which work in key health impact areas or capacity-building grants to build nonprofit capacity to address health disparities. This is an open application process with applications accepted through September 15, 2017, or until all 2017 funds are awarded.

All prospective applicants should carefully review the mission and strategic focus of Kansas Health Foundation (KHF), as well as the funding criteria before applying; this information is available in the [request for proposals](#) (RFP). All funding proposals are required to align with the mission of KHF, such as work supporting KHF's five impact areas of:

- Increasing access to health care
- Decreasing tobacco use
- Increasing physical activity
- Increasing healthy food access
- Improving civic health

As it relates to proposals for the impact grants, preference is given to proposals describing a health policy, systems or environmental-focused effort which demonstrates the opportunity to address health disparities in one or more of KHF's five impact areas which adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health. Available funding is designated to support new efforts and may not be used for long-term, ongoing or recurring programmatic efforts.

For the capacity building grants, preference will be given to proposals for non-recurring internal capacity building needs for organizations addressing health disparities which adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion. This track is open to all mission-aligned organizations actively working to reduce health disparities and promote health equity and is not limited to KHF's five impact areas.

The maximum grant size is \$25,000, and the maximum grant term is two years. In order to be eligible, 50 percent or more of the organization's target population must reside in Kansas. Please note that only one proposal from each organization will be accepted per year. Further information on the funding opportunity, including funding exclusions and criteria for consideration are outlined in the [RFP](#). Additional information about the funding opportunity, including the instructions, templates and the RFP is available [online](#). Please submit any questions regarding the Impact and Capacity Grants Initiative RFP via e-mail, with the subject "Impact and Capacity Grants Question," to Blair Weibert, Program Assistant, at bweibert@khf.org.

Training and Conference Announcements

Rural Health Grants Webinar Series - Understanding the How, the Where, the Resources



The Health Resources and Services Administration, Office of Regional Operations - Kansas City, invites you to a Rural Health Grants Webinar Series: Understanding the How, the Where, the Resources. The goal of this free webinar series is to educate potential applications about HRSA programs and resources, the federal grant application process, federal and state funding opportunities, as well as important tips, resources, and training opportunities to drive a successful grant application. The series will include the following webinars:

- Federal Funding Opportunities -- July 14, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
- State Funding Opportunities to Support Rural Health -- July 24, 10 - 11 a.m.
- Vision, Design and Capacity Grant Writing Trainings -- Monday, August 28, 10 - 11 a.m.
- Creating a Competitive Proposal - September 19, 9:30 -- 11 a.m.

To register for any of these sessions click [here](#). If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Richard Overcast at 816-426-5227 or ROvercast@hrsa.gov.

Webinar - Promoting a Culture of Health Through Multi-Sector Engagement and Leadership - July 19



Join the National Center for Interprofessional Practice & Education for a webinar on July 19, 2 p.m. The webinar will focus on promoting a culture of health through multi-sector engagement and leadership. The webinar will be hosted by Barbara F. Brandt, PhD, Director, National Center for Interprofessional Practice & Education, Associate Vice President for Education, University of Minnesota, Academic Health Center Office of Education. Speakers will include: Tara A. Cortes, PhD, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, and Professor, New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing; Amy J. Barton, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor, Daniel and Janet Mordecai Endowed Chair in Rural Health Nursing, Associate Dean for Clinical and Community Affairs; and Shirley Dinkel, PhD, APRN-BC, FAANP, Professor & Director - Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Washburn University. Register for the webinar [online](#).

Webinar Series - Built Environment: Engaging New Allies in Planning a Healthy City



This three-session webinar series is focused on the concept that place matters - that the physical environment can protect against or exacerbate health inequities. The series will center on the intersection of design, planning, community development, and public health, as well as the consequences of different urban design approaches on health equity. It will help people see their surroundings and their relationship to health with new eyes, as well as provide resources and tools for increased participation of community leaders and non-designer professionals in the urban design process. The series' intended results include creating a cadre of professionals in relevant sectors who gain insight into how the built environment intersects with issues of safety, access to healthy lifestyles, and a community's overall physical, mental and emotional health. The webinars will also provide participants with sample resources and steps to become engaged or engage others in the urban design process. Attendees will gain a more comprehensive understanding of the urban planning-health equity relationship to provide input and ideas in the urban design process; and essential skills in the theory and practice of community engagement.

Save the dates for the following webinars and check [the website](#) periodically for more details:

- Improving the Physical Environment to Advance Health Equity: Case Studies on Community Engagement - July 19, 12 - 1 p.m.
- Strategies for Urban Designers to Engage Local Communities - September 13, 12 - 1 p.m.

Webinar - Best Fed Beginnings: Key Findings & Takeaways - August 2



Join the National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ) for a webinar with Jennifer Ustianov, MS, BSN, RN, IBCLC, and Lori Feldman-Winter, MD, MPH, featuring the findings and key takeaways from the Best Fed Beginnings initiative on August 2, 11:00 a.m. Co-authors of a new Pediatrics journal article, "Best Fed Beginnings: A Nationwide Quality Improvement Initiative to Increase Breastfeeding," the duo will share insights and analysis on the initiative's major achievements, including driving 80 percent of participating hospitals to achieve "Baby-Friendly" status, and answer attendees questions. Register for the webinar [online](#).

2017 Kansas Environmental Conference - August 9-10



Registration is now open for the 2017 Kansas Environmental Conference. The conference will be held at the Capital Plaza and Manor Conference Center in Topeka. The conference will feature Brigadier General W. Chris King as a keynote speaker. The conference will also include sessions on topics such as VW settlement, nanoparticles, environmental impacts of wind development, green schools, online tools and many other environmental topics. Register [online](#). Contact kdhe.ksenvironmentalconf@ks.gov or 785-296-1526 with questions.

Pediatric Feeding Workshop - August 9-11



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF
HEALTH PROFESSIONS
Evelyn Hendren Cassat
Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic

If you are interested in learning more about using a multidisciplinary approach to assessment and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders, consider attending the Pediatric Feeding Workshop at the Wichita State University's Marcus Welcome Center on August 9-11. Attendees will hear evidence-based, clinically applicable solutions from respected instructors and health care professionals that are highly experienced in pediatric feeding disorders. Participants will learn how to diagnose and treat pediatric feeding problems to ensure successful results. The conference is designed for nurses, occupational therapists, speech therapists, social workers, dietitians, psychologists and students. More information, including registration information, will be made available soon on the Wichita State University [website](#).

Webinar - Hospital Investment and Interaction In Public Health Systems - August 10

Systems for Action

Systems and Services Research to Build a Culture of Health

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Systems for Action National Program will host a webinar on community strategies to increase hospitals' involvement in public health systems by examining hospital investments and interactions with other public health organizations in their community. The webinar is a part of the Systems for Action's Research-in-Progress Webinar Series; the series allows investigators whose awards are in-progress or completed to share their work and disseminate findings more rapidly. Each webinar includes progress on the research project and findings to date, next steps in the project and how to contact the researchers, and time for questions and discussion.

This webinar will be held on August 10, 11 a.m., and will allow investigators to introduce their translation tool that will enable communities to use an interactive registry of indicator and outcome measures to design their hospital-public health integration strategies. Additional information about this webinar is available [online](#), including a publication and [previous presentations](#). Register for this webinar [online](#).

MPHTC Diabetes Training and Resources



Midwestern Public Health Training Center

The Midwestern Public Health Training Center (MPHTC) has resources for the public health workforce on [prevention and management of Diabetes](#). Included in the list of learning webinars are: How to Avoid Lost Opportunity, Engaging Patients in Diabetes Self-Management Through Health Coaching, and The Role of Community Health Workers in Collaboration with Public Health Nurses.



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Public Health Fellowship Training - Apply by August 11

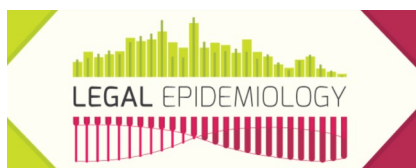
The Kansas Public Health Training Fellowship is an eight-month training fellowship offered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for up to 20 participants to enhance leadership skills critical for effective public health planning and practice. The purpose of the Kansas Public Health Training Fellowship is to equip individuals to support their organizations in meeting their missions through expanded understanding of the public health system.

Successful applicants will be expected to attend all live and virtual events and must have supervisory approval to participate. (*Participants will receive a certificate of program completion for 35-40 contact hours.*) Individual time commitment will vary based on travel required for attendance and live events. Virtual events include 5 one-hour webinars and up to two hours to complete additional online coursework via KS-TRAIN. Live events include 2 two-day training sessions in Topeka and at least one day of attendance at the Governor's Conference on Public Health (additional time may be required to prepare for the student's presentation at this conference.)

- September 8 : Webinar
- October 4-5 : Topeka : Live Training
- November TBD : Evidence-Based Public Health Course, Topeka : Live Training
- December 8 at 9:00 am : Webinar
- January 12 at 9:00 am : Webinar
- February 9 at 9:00 am : Webinar
- March 9 at 9:00 am : Webinar
- April 3-5 : Governor's Public Health Conference, Wichita : Live Training

If you are interested, click [here](#) to fill out the application. If you have any questions, please contact Kristina Helmer at kristina.helmer@wichita.edu. Deadline to apply is August 11.

Webinar Series: An Introduction to Legal Epidemiology - August 16



The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) is hosting a webinar series focused on an introduction to legal epidemiology. The recording of the first webinar is now available online. The first webinar featured speakers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Public Health Law Program; they defined and characterized legal epidemiology and described how it can be used as a tool when advancing from data to policy. On August 16, 12 - 1:30 p.m., the third webinar will

offer a primer on the Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach as a strategy for addressing complex factors that influence health and equity. Speakers will also demonstrate how legal epidemiology can be used as a tool in tracking the growth of HiAP laws, policies and programs across the country and identify current trends in HiAP implementation. View the recording of the first webinar [here](#). More information about the webinar series is available [here](#); registration for the third webinar will be made available on the website soon.

Grants 101 Workshop - August 22



The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health (OMH) and the Kansas City Quality Improvement Consortium, is hosting the Grants 101 Workshop. The workshop will be held at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 22, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. The workshop topics will include:

- Grants 101: The Federal Grant Application Process
- Federal Funding Opportunities
- Technical Assistance and Resources
- Engaging and Collaborating with Foundations
- Common Mistakes and Important Tips

Register for the workshop [online](#). For more information about this event, contact Richard Overcast at 816-426-5227 or at ROvercast@hrsa.gov.

Rural Health Information Hub Makes CDC MMWR Rural Health Series Webinars Available



The Rural Health Information (RHI) Hub has made available a series of webinars highlighting recent studies featured in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Rural Health Series and rural programs funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP). The [first webinar](#) focuses on rural mortality rates and reducing potentially preventable deaths. The webinar also features a program funded by the FORHP to share best practices and successes in their endeavor to reduce obesity, one of the major risk factors contributing to a number of the leading causes of death as cited by CDC. The [second webinar](#) focuses on the mental and behavioral health needs of rural children.

2017 Schedule Meetings and Conferences Impacting Local Public Health Agencies

[Click Here](#) to Access the Calendar

Vision, Design and Capacity Grant Writing Workshop - Improving the Skills of Technical Writers - August 23 - 25



The Health Resources and Services Administration, (HRSA), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health (OMH), is hosting a 2 ½ day free hands-on grant writing workshop in Kansas City, Missouri, at the Richard Bolling Federal Building. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 9:00 a.m. - Friday, August 25, 12 p.m. Participants are sequentially engaged through lectures and interactive exercises, over 2 ½ days. Attendees will review principles of technical writing, practice strategies to relay information in grant applications, and share the tips and standards Grant Reviewers use as they screen applications going to the Funder. Workshop participants will use interactive exercises and practices to learn about logic models, components of a grant, evaluation methods, SMART objectives, work plans, and more.

Space is limited for the workshop; participants are encouraged to register. Those who can guarantee their ability to attend the entire workshop, without interruptions, will be given preference. Registration is available [online](#). For more information, contact Richard Overcast at 816-426-5227 or at ROvercast@hrsa.gov.



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Local Public Health Leadership Series - Apply by August 25

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) are offering a leadership development opportunity for ALL local and state public health professionals in Wichita, Kansas. Dates for the Local Public Health Leadership

Series are:

- September 26-27
- October 23-24
- November 14-15
- December 11-12

The purpose of the Local Public Health Leadership Series is to enhance the ability of local health department administrators and staff to exercise leadership in the delivery of Medicaid services to residents in their communities.

Leadership involves mobilizing others, sometimes without direct authority to do so, in an effort to address difficult community challenges. These difficult, daunting, adaptive challenges don't have a single expert or manager that can fix them. Progress can be made to address adaptive challenges but it will require learning, involvement of stakeholders and persistent efforts. Public health professionals are in key positions to provide this kind of leadership.

The Local Public Health Leadership Series will develop core knowledge and skills related to identifying and responding to adaptive challenges. The focus will be on development of leadership competencies identified by the Kansas Leadership Center: Diagnosing the Situation, Managing Self, Energizing Others and Intervening Skillfully. The Wichita State University Center for Community Support and Research (WSU-CCSR) will serve as faculty and coaches for the series which is modeled after the Kansas Leadership Center's training curriculum and methods.

If you are interested, click [here](#) to fill out the application. If you have any questions, please contact Kristina Helmer at kristina.helmer@wichita.edu. Deadline to apply is August 25.

Health in 3D - Diversity, Disparity and Social Determinants



Check out the Health in 3D: Diversity, Disparities and Social Determinants, Course ID# 1063291, on [KS-TRAIN](#), for a Kansas-specific look at diversity, disparities and social determinants of health. This educational offering supported by the [Reach Foundation](#), explains how diversity, disparities and social determinants (3D's) apply to your work in public health and is essential in order to effectively deliver public health services. One goal of this training is to help participants look at diversity from a broader perspective and think about populations that are present in Kansas. It is important to understand that one's history, experience, age and geographic location are all part of diversity - not just one's racial or ethnic background. This training will provide more information with stories from Kansans themselves.

Updated USDA WIC Works Courses on KS-TRAIN



Recently, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) renewed credits for the WIC Works courses. All courses except for WIC 101 now offer one CNE Clock Hour or one CPE for Dietitians. The certificates that KS-TRAIN delivers for all seven courses have been updated. Because of a change in credit amount, one course had to be cloned and made anew. Please update this course in any training plans or dissemination materials you or your partners may be using. The new Course ID# is 1071506 for [Feeding Infants: Nourishing Attitudes and Techniques \(2017\)](#). The remaining six course numbers did not change. All seven courses can be accessed via the [KS-TRAIN](#), WIC Learning Online [training plan](#).

Resource: Legal Liability Protections for Emergency Medical/Public Health Responses



Liability protections are in place at both the state and local levels for different types of actors and entities involved in emergency response efforts. The Network for Public Health Law has designed a table that highlights those [potential liability protections](#) for individuals, including health care workers, volunteers and private sector employees; and entities, including government agencies, hospitals or healthcare facilities, non-profit organizations and for-profit organizations.

Kansas Developed Online Courses Posted to KS TRAIN

Kansas TRAIN EpiTrax: Elevated Blood Lead Disease Investigation Guidelines Course ID #1071191, at <http://ks.train.org>, was developed by the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, Kansas Department of Health and Environment. This Disease Investigation Guideline (DIG) course was developed specifically for Elevated Blood Lead Case management in the EpiTrax system to provide detailed instructions and guidelines for disease investigators. Course content questions can be directed to Jessica.Willard@ks.gov.

Performing a Thorough Medication Reconciliation, Course ID #1069424 is brought to you by the Topeka Community of Care and provides one nursing contact hour post completing the online module. The goals for this program are to define medication reconciliation and identify its significance. The course will also discuss the goals and barriers of medication reconciliation. From there you will review the medication reconciliation process and what it entails. Finally, you will explore different interviewing techniques that can be used when reviewing and updating a client's medication list. At the conclusion of this module, learners will be able to demonstrate the process of medication reconciliation and apply interviewing techniques for obtaining medication lists from consumers.

General IT Cyber Security Awareness Training, Course ID# 1070513 is a 45 minute online course with general information on system security requirements and responsibilities required to protect IT systems and data. At the conclusion of this online training learners will be able to:

- Identify potential risks and vulnerabilities associated with information systems.
- Employ suggested guidelines to protect your organization against attacks on information systems.

Successfully Dealing with Challenging Customers, Course ID# 1069122 is a new one hour online course developed to equip employees with knowledge needed to work with challenging customers and how best to serve those customers effectively. Upon completion of this online course, participants will be able to identify reasons customers may appear unreasonable, what gets in the way of working with challenging customers and describe the importance and best practices of effective communication with your customers, using active listening skills and powerful questions.

KDHE: School Bullying Policy Analysis: A Toolkit for Schools, Course ID# 1064735 will provide school principals, counselors, and others in the school community with the skills to analyze their school/district's bullying policy. Upon completion of this course, learners will be able to: identify the key components of a comprehensive school bullying policy, explain how to conduct an analysis of a school bullying policy and determine the process for changing the school bullying policy in their school district.

Qualified Interpreting for Quality Health Care: A Training Video for Clinical Staff on How to Work with Interpreters, Course ID# 1069374 is an instructional video for clinicians, in all disciplines, who may work with patients experiencing language barriers. This course covers the following topics:

- Why it is important to use a qualified interpreter instead of "getting by" with hand gestures and limited second-language skills;
- Key protocols for language interpreting, such as confidentiality and first-person interpreting;
- Cultural considerations;
- Tips for using remote interpreters (telephonic and video).

At the conclusion of this video learners will be able to: Identify situations in which language interpretation is needed; Understand the SPEC+1 protocols for interviewing a patient through an interpreter; Anticipate and recognize possible cultural barriers to understanding; and how to Work effectively with interpreters, whether they are physically present, or at a remote location such as a telephone or video conference.

Resource: Standardized Screening for Health-Related Social Needs in Clinical Settings: The Accountable Health Communities Screening Tool

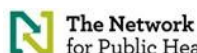


The impacts of unmet health-related social needs, such as homelessness, inconsistent access to food, and exposure to violence on health and health care utilization, are well-established. Growing evidence indicates that addressing these and other needs can help reverse their damaging health effects, but screening for social needs is not yet standard clinical practice. In many communities, the absence of established pathways and infrastructure and perceptions of inadequate time to make community referrals are barriers that seem to often keep clinicians and their staff from broaching the topic. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Accountable Health Communities Model, tested by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, addresses this critical gap between clinical care and community services in the current health care delivery system by testing whether systematically identifying and addressing the health-related social needs of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries impacts their total health care costs and improves health.

With input from a panel of national experts and after review of existing screening instruments, CMS developed a 10-item screening tool to identify patient needs in 5 different domains that can be addressed through community services (housing instability, food insecurity, transportation difficulties, utility assistance needs, and interpersonal safety). Clinicians and their staff can use this short tool across a spectrum of ages, backgrounds, and settings, and it is streamlined enough to be incorporated into busy clinical workflows. Just like with clinical assessment tools, results from this screening tool can be used to inform a patient's treatment plan as well as make referrals to community services. Access more information and the screening tool [online](#).

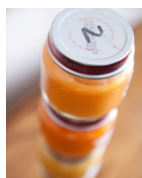
News and Resources

How the Law Can Help Realize the Potential of School Nursing in Public Health



Registered professional school nurses provide important access to prevention services, early detection, and mental health services for school-aged children and adolescents. For many children, the school nurse may be the only health care provider they will see all year, but there is a need for [law and policy change to improve access to school nursing services](#).

Lead Detected in 20 Percent of Baby Food Samples, Surprising Even Researchers



Pediatricians and public health [researchers](#) know they have to be on the lookout for lead exposure from paint chips and contaminated drinking water. A new report suggests food - particularly baby food - could be a problem, too. The Environmental Defense Fund, in an analysis of 11 years of federal data, [found detectable levels of lead in 20 percent](#) of 2,164 baby food samples. The toxic metal was most commonly found in fruit juices such as grape and apple, root vegetables such as sweet potatoes and carrots, and cookies such as teething biscuits.

Diabetes Increases in Children and Teens

NIH News in Health A [recent study](#) found that rates of new cases of diabetes in children and teens rose during 2002 to 2012. The researchers reported increases in the rates of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Researchers found that for each year between 2002 and 2012, the rate of new cases of type 1 diabetes in youths under 20 rose by about 2 percent. The rate of new cases of type 2 diabetes in youths ages 10 to 19 increased by about 5 percent. Unlike type 1 diabetes, type 2 is seldom diagnosed in children younger than 10. The researchers noted that rates of diabetes rose significantly in certain racial and ethnic groups. For type 1 diabetes, the rate of new cases increased in Hispanics, non-Hispanic blacks, and non-Hispanic whites. For type 2 diabetes, the rate of new cases rose in Hispanics, non-Hispanic blacks, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans. The study also detected differences in the rates for male and female youths. For type 1 diabetes, the rate rose more in males. For type 2 diabetes, the rate increased more in females.

ADA Does Not Recommend Oil Pulling



Recent beauty trends have included the suggestion to use [oil pulling](#) to whiten teeth. There is not enough evidence to support the ancient practice and it is "not a proven way to whiten teeth," according to the [American Dental Association](#) (ADA).

MouthHealthy.org provides additional information on [oil pulling](#), noting that "the American Dental Association does not recommend oil pulling as a dental hygiene practice." In addition, MouthHealthy.org provides information on [teeth whitening](#). The ADA also provides a complete list of [toothpastes](#) with the ADA Seal of Acceptance, including some with [stain removal](#) attributes.

The Rich Stopped Smoking, the Poor Didn't - America's New Tobacco Crisis



After decades of lawsuits, public campaigns and painful struggles, Americans have finally done what once seemed impossible: Most of the country has quit smoking, saving millions of lives and leading to massive reductions in cancer. That is, unless those Americans are poor, uneducated or live in a rural area. Hidden among the steady declines in recent years is the stark reality that [cigarettes are becoming a habit of the poor](#). The national smoking rate has fallen to historic lows, with just 15 percent of adults still smoking. But the socioeconomic gap has never been bigger.

Aspirin 'Major Bleed' Warning for Over-75s



People over 75 taking [daily aspirin](#) after a stroke or heart attack are at higher risk of major - and sometimes fatal - stomach bleeds than previously thought, research in The Lancet shows. Scientists say that to reduce these risks, older people should also take stomach-protecting PPI pills. But they insist aspirin has important benefits - such as preventing heart attacks - that outweigh the risks. And they warn that stopping aspirin suddenly can be harmful.

Artificially Sweetened Drinks in Pregnancy May Increase Obesity Risk in Kids



The National Institutes of Health (NIH) [researchers found](#) that infants whose mothers had gestational diabetes and drank at least one artificially sweetened beverage daily during pregnancy were twice as likely to be overweight or obese at age 7, compared with those whose mothers had gestational diabetes and drank water during gestation. The findings, in the International Journal of Epidemiology, showed no advantages to drinking diet beverages over sugar-sweetened ones during pregnancy, but women who drank water instead had children whose obesity risk by age 7 was reduced by 17 percent.

More than a third of teenage girls experience depression, new study says



A large [new study](#) out this week contains some alarming data about the state of children's mental health in the United States, finding that depression in many children appears to start as early as age 11. By the time they hit age 17, the analysis found, 13.6 percent of boys and a staggering 36.1 percent of girls have been or are depressed.

Resource: Immunization Strategies to Protect Underserved Populations



The National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) has made available an audio recording and slides from an April webinar that focused on raising awareness and flu vaccination disparities and help local public health professionals take action to close the gap. The webinar, led by experts in the field, discussed methods and best practices from successful national and regional flu vaccination outreach programs and focused on:

- Best practices for promoting flu vaccination in underserved communities;
- Effective strategies to leverage resources with partners and improve vaccination promotion activities; and
- Initiatives that promote flu vaccination among high-risk populations.

View [the slides](#) from the webinar and listen to [the audio recording](#) for more information.

America's Hidden H.I.V. Epidemic



One population in the United States has a higher H.I.V. rate than any country in the world. This in-depth report examines the [hidden epidemic](#).

Study: Even Moderate Drinking Might Be Bad for Aging Brains



Here's one more reason to think before you drink: even a modest amount of booze might be bad for [aging brains](#). A new study published Tuesday in the medical journal *BMJ* says moderate drinkers were more likely than abstainers or light drinkers to develop worrisome brain changes that might signal eventual memory loss. They also were more likely to show rapid slippage on a language test, though not on several other cognitive tests.

Some Seniors Just Want To Be Left Alone, Which Can Lead to Problems



Almost 30 percent of patients leaving the hospital don't want home health care services, which often leads to readmissions and [other health issues](#). Refusing home health care after a hospitalization puts patients at risk of a difficult, incomplete or slower-than-anticipated recovery. Without these services, older adults' odds of being readmitted to the hospital within 30 or 60 days double, according to one [study](#).

Job Postings

Franklin County Health Department

- [Assistant Health Director](#)

Geary County Health Department

- [WIC Registered Dietician](#)

Leavenworth County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

Miami County Health Department

- [Registered Nurse](#)

Riley County Health Department

- [Advanced Practice Registered Nurse \(APRN\)](#)

Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse II](#)
- [Public Health Nurse/Registered Dietician](#)
- [Part Time Dental Interpreter](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[2017 KDHE News Releases](#)
[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)
[Kansas Environmental News](#)
[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)
[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)
[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)
[Ready Reader](#)
[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, email phc@kdheks.gov.
 Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at
http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm.

Send your public health news to
 Katie Mahuron at katie.mahuron@ks.gov.